

JANUARY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:30 AM

Approval of Agenda

Public Comment

Consent Agenda

Secretary's Report

1. Minutes of December 11, 2023 Board Meeting

Treasurer's Report

2. Approve Time and Travel
3. Approve Financial Report
4. Bill Approval

Correspondence: None

FSA Report

NRCS Report

Unfinished Business:

- Partners for Conservation (PFC) Cost-Share Grants
- The Conservation Fund TA Agreement
- Recent & Future Education & Outreach Events

New Business:

- Spring Outreach Intern
- NRI #2024-01

Reports – in addition to printed reports, if necessary

- Resource Conservationist – Crystal Sauder
- Administrative Coordinator – Linda Settle
- Grants Coordinator & Special Projects – Emilie Watkins

For the Good of the Order

Adjournment

Date and time of next Board Meeting
February 12, 2024 at 7:30 AM

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes January 8, 2024

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly board meeting on Monday, January 8, 2024. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:34 AM. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Jim Frogge, Larry Kirchner, Alan Wissmiller and Ed Brown, Associate Director John Settle, Resource Conservationist Crystal Sauder, Grants & Project Coordinator Emilie Watkins (by phone), Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle, Soil Conservationist Matt Raymond and District Conservationist Trenton Rader (left after his report). Guests in attendance were Valerie Thompson and Cody Rollins.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed five to zero.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA: O'Connor made and Frogge seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion passed five to zero.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Minutes of December 11, 2023 Board Meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Approval of Time and Travel
Approval of Financial Report
Approval of Bills

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS:

PFC Cost Share – Sauder stated that she is sending out approved payments and is completing the remaining contracts. The FY23 funds are now being used.

Grants – Sauder stated that there is still one sensor in the field at Jed Siedentop's farm for the Soil on Demand project. She will be having a phone call with Soil Scout to get the soil sensors updated and ready for the spring. She will be looking for sites for the upcoming year and a decision on what to monitor this year will be made. Last year's monitoring was cover vs no cover at 2 depths. Is there anything additional to be monitored?

Watkins stated that the first payment of \$25,000 has been received from the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelly Foundation.

Watkins stated that there are no new updates on the GDDF sponsored Federal Funding Navigator program. She has a phone call scheduled and will report back to the Board at the February meeting.

The Conservation Fund TA Position – Watkins stated Sauder submitted her hours and Watkins is sending TCF an invoice for \$1,750.00. The SWCD was unable to complete the Scope of Work due to unforeseen challenges. She has had phone calls with Emy discussing the SWCD challenges and offering insight.

Education & Outreach – Sauder reported that there is nothing new on plans for future events. A presentation on Precision Farming in January or February is still being planned. A Pond Management Workshop with Seth Love from IDNR is being worked on for February 21 or 22.

NEW BUSINESS:

NRI Approval – Sauder presented an NRI for approval –

NRI #2024-01 is a request for rezoning from A-1 to RE. The request is to remove residences from the rest of the parcel. The recommendation is a letter of no objection. Kirchner made and Frogge seconded a motion to provide a letter of no objection. Motion passed five to zero.

Spring 2024 Outreach Intern – Sauder reported that she has extended applications through February. There has not been any applications received as yet.

Sauder stated that Will-South Cook has asked for help with their website design on their PFC. This is something she would be able to do remotely from our District office. Discussion was held regarding whether Sauder would have the time to assist them and what should be charged. Kirchner made and Brown seconded a motion to provide website design help for Will-South up to 8 hours at \$150 per hour.

REPORTS – in addition to printed reports, if necessary

RC Report – Nothing additional.

AC Report – Nothing additional.

Grant Writer – Nothing additional.

Conservation Coordinator – Nothing additional.

DC Report – Programs are rolling out.

FSA Report – The farm bill has been extended for another year. Sign up deadline is March 15th. The building lease is up and being worked on.

Committee Reports –

Good of the Order – Nothing

The next regular District Board meeting will be held on February 12, 2024 at 7:30 AM.

O'Connor made and Frogge seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed five to zero. The meeting adjourned at 8:56 AM.